

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid-cooled mold for the continuous casting of metals, comprising:

mold plates made of one of copper and a copper alloy, which are supported at their rear on supporting plates by use of a plurality of bolts, the bolts having bolt heads applied in a region of a backsides of the supporting plates facing away from the mold plates; and

articulation systems allowing relative motions between the mold plates and the supporting plates are incorporated between the bolt heads and the backsides, wherein the articulation systems each include a first articulation member assigned to the bolt head and a second articulation member assigned to the backside of the supporting plate, having sliding surfaces facing each other, a sliding element being undetachably incorporated between the sliding surfaces of the articulation members, the first articulation member configured as a conical socket and the second articulation member configured with a second conical arrangement opposite the configuration of the conical socket of the first articulation member, the second conical arrangement pointing in a direction of the bolt head; and

a rocker disk having a spherical cap-shaped surface, the rocker disk positioned between the first articulation member and the second articulation member.

2. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 1, wherein the sliding element is a sliding coating that is undetachably connected to at least one of the sliding surfaces.

3. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 2, wherein one component of the sliding coating is polytetrafluoroethylene.

4. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 2, wherein a coefficient of static friction between the sliding surfaces is one of less than and equal to 0.1.
5. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 4, wherein the coefficient of static friction between the sliding surfaces is one of less than and equal to 0.04.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 61, wherein the rocker disk is divided into an upper disk half and a lower disc half, each having a spherical cap-shaped surface on one side.
9. (Currently Amended) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 61, wherein at least one spring element is incorporated between the bolt head and the backside of the supporting plate.
10. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 1, wherein a sliding arrangement is incorporated between the contact surfaces of the mold plate and the supporting plate which are movable parallel to each other.
11. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 10, wherein the sliding arrangement is a coating that is undetachably connected to at least one of each of the contact surfaces of the mold plate and the supporting plate.
12. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 11, wherein one component of the sliding coating is polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE).
13. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 10, wherein planar sliding elements are situated between the contact surfaces of the mold plate and the supporting plate which are movable parallel to each other.

14. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 10, wherein a coefficient of static friction between the contact surfaces is one of less than and equal to 0.1.

15. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 3, wherein a coefficient of static friction between the sliding surfaces is one of less than and equal to 0.1.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The liquid cooled mold according to claim ~~7~~1, wherein the rocker disk is divided into an upper disk half and a lower disk half, each having a spherical cap-shaped surface on one side.

18. (Currently Amended) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim ~~7~~1, wherein at least one spring element is incorporated between the bolt head and the backside of the supporting plate.

19. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 2, wherein a sliding arrangement is incorporated between the contact surfaces of the mold plate and the supporting plate which are movable parallel to each other.

20. (Original) The liquid-cooled mold according to claim 11, wherein planar sliding elements are situated between the contact surfaces of the mold plate and the supporting plate which are movable parallel to each other.